



First Christian Church (DOC)  
1326 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Grand Junction, CO 81501  
firstchristiangj@hotmail.com  
[www.gjdisciples.org](http://www.gjdisciples.org)  
970.242.7204—phone

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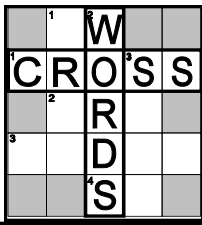
Volume 15 • July 18, 2019

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**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement**

**Pr aising God,  
Changing Lives!**



# First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

## Services each Sunday...

### Praising God, Changing Lives for 135 Years!

Summer Hours

One Worship

10:50 AM

Coffee Mingle

12:15 PM

### Church Office Hours:

8:30am-1:30pm

Monday-Thursday

## Our Ministry Statement

**First Christian Church**

exists to:

**Reach Up** to worship God,

**Reach In** to grow in  
Christ-like maturity,

**Reach Out** to serve others in  
Christ's name, to share the  
Good News of Jesus Christ  
with others and to invite  
them to become members of  
His family.

## The Staff

### Welcomes You...

**Rev. Brad Barton**

Sr. Minister

**Rev. Melanie Ferron**  
Associate Minister

**Paula Schaffer**, Pianist

**Tish Key**, Secretary

## Faith Talk:

### How Can a Good and All-Powerful God Allow Bad Things to Happen?

[This is the fifth in my summertime series called "Faith Talk". Each article in the series will provide probing questions and commentary about issues important to faith about which non-churched people you encounter might be curious.]

Today's topic: How Can a Good and All-Powerful God Allow Bad Things to Happen?

This might be the question that leads more people to choose to opt out of or against Christianity than any other question. While I was at the Chautauqua Institution, I heard a lecture from a man who had chosen atheism over Christianity as a result of his pondering this question. The reasoning goes something like this: the existence of bad stuff requires that God be either (1) less than all-powerful (and so unable to prevent bad stuff from happening) or (2) something other than good (and so unwilling to prevent bad stuff from happening.)

I get it. I really do. The existence of bad stuff, especially bad things happening to good people, provides quite a challenge to the fundamental Christian assertions of a God who is both all-powerful and good. For some people, there seems to be no way out of this conundrum.

However, for me, the solution is based on two other fundamental aspects of God taught clearly in the scriptures. The first concerns God's power. While the scriptures affirm God's incredible power (power to create, power to heal, power to destroy, power over nature, even power to resurrect), the scriptures also reveal God made a decision to limit the use of God's power when God gave people free will. In order for our wills to be free, God must limit God's power in relationship with us to persuasive power, rather than coercive power. In other words, God chose to limit God's ability to stop/prevent people from doing bad things to each other but rather chose to persuade people to do good. The second concerns God's holiness, which can also be described as other-ness. When we say God is good, right, or just, we are making claims using terms that can only be defined by God. In other words, God - not us - determines things like goodness. When we say God cannot be good because God doesn't conform to our understanding of goodness, we misunderstand what it truly means to make the Christian claim that God is good; it is a claim defined by God's standards, not by our standards.

So...does the reality of bad things negate the possible existence of an all-powerful God who is also good? For some people, it might. For me, it does not. If God chose to limit God's power so as to not be able to stop violence among people, that was and is God's choice; it does not mean God does not inherently have the power to stop violence. If God sees that choice to limit God's power as good, who am I, as a created being, to suggest the choice makes God something other than good? (Especially since God works daily to persuade people to stop the violence.) Unlike God, I have incomplete information and so am not in position to be the judge of goodness on such a scale.

- Pastor Brad

# Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

## FCC Birthdays

### July

July 19 Doug Bryant  
 July 21 Susan Meders  
 July 24 William Edwards  
 July 24 Dorothy Mitchell  
 July 29 T'Anni Meders

### August

August 4 Virginia Johnson  
 August 6 Chuck Haigler  
 August 6 Bob Wise  
 August 10 Dorothy Ruth  
 August 10 Earn Eachus  
 August 10 Tony Guarente  
 August 12 Ryder Stauffer  
 August 13 Robert Ruth Jr.  
 August 14 Riecke Claussen  
 August 14 Ebany James  
 August 15 Paula Schaffer

## FCC Anniversary

### July

July 19 Charles & Virginia Johnson

### August

August 4 Gene & Norma Matteson  
 August 5 Terry & Jo Laughlin  
 August 9 Keith & Joan White  
 August 14 Don & Jeanne Klitzke  
 August 15 Doug & Carolyn Bryant  
 August 16 Tara & Mason Stauffer

## CROSSWORDS!

**next deadline is...**

**Thursday July , 25th**

Please submit to the church office  
or

email them to:

[firstchristiangj@hotmail.com](mailto:firstchristiangj@hotmail.com)

Articles arriving later than the  
deadline will not be included until  
the next published Crosswords.

- 13. Who was your first crush? Did you tell anyone? Were you shy around him/her? Did he/she ever find out?
- 14. What was your first pet? What was his/her name? How long did you have him/her?



Saturday July 20th

@ 8 am

Elders Meeting

Sunday, August 11th@

12:30 pm

Board Meeting

Sunday, Aug. 18th

@ 4:00 pm

# Announcements



## From The Bookshelf

The last book of the year for the FCC Bookworms was “America’s First Daughter” by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie. Pam Baumgartle led our discussions which were full of questions, comments and concern for “Patsy”, President Thomas Jefferson’s oldest daughter, who stood by her father through thick and thin. Although this was a novel, much of it was based on well-documented events, and we learned a great deal about the lives of southern ladies during that period. Thanks, Pam, for your much appreciated contribution to FCC Bookworms.

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Wow, another 8 ½ lbs of batteries have been saved from the landfill thanks to those of you who bring your spent batteries to the church. Remember the tray for the batteries is now located in the fellowship hall on the table next to Brad’s office. Thanks for helping save our Mother Earth.

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On July 1 Lamar and I were in the middle of the Strait of Georgia (recently renamed The Salish Sea). It was a very sunny day and calm sea (yea!). I was reading the June issue of the AARP Bulletin where there were several articles commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Did you know that Chapman University, which is a Disciples of Christ sponsored university, houses the Center for American War Letters? An excerpt from one of those letters written by a Pfc. regarding the heroics by one in his platoon was written to the young man’s mother. It along with other stories can be seen at [aarp.org/dday](http://aarp.org/dday). Hope everyone is having a good July, Joyce Wittwer

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## Volunteers for the Women's Retreat in August

We are in need of a five volunteers who would be willing to help prep food on Friday, August 23rd and help serve on Saturday, August 24th. If you would be willing to help either or both days please sign up on the Women's Bulletin Board next to the Library. We are also in need of one or two people who would be willing to bake sugar cookies for the retreat. These can be done ahead of time at your convenience and frozen. Finally, we are asking to borrow your teapot if you have one. There is a sign up sheet on the same bulletin board if you would be willing to loan us one. We will take good care of them while they are in our care. Thank You!



## Summer Preaching Schedule: July– Aug.

It's Summer, While we follow the Narrative Lectionary, the summer months provide an opportunity for sermon series. Also, I will be away for mission trips, educational opportunities, and vacation for at least 3 weeks during these summer months. As a result, I'll share with you the summer preaching schedule, so you will know who is preaching each Sunday and when I'll be preaching on various series. Here's the schedule for July– Aug.

- July 21 - Pastor Brad and Rev. Susan Barton (Series: Sabbath)
- July 28 - Pastor Brad (Series: Sabbath)
- August 4 - Pastor Brad (Series: Sabbath)
- August 11- Pastor Brad (Series: Sabbath)
- August 18 - Pastor Brad (Series: Discernment)
- August 25 - Pastor Brad (Series: Discernment)

-Pastor Brad



## A Little Food Bank Comparison



	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Jan.	#177	#210
Feb.	#142	#150
Mar.	#170	#192
Apr.	#240	#160
May	#100	#153
June	#223	#210
July	#223	
Aug.	#198	
Sept.	#117	
Oct.	#176	
Nov.	#76	
Dec.	#285	



Our sympathy goes out to  
The Family of:

*Alice Else*

# Announcements



Sunday, July 28, 2019

(Everyone is welcome to come during  
our "Coffee Mingle" Hour)

Please sign-up to bring your Homemade Ice Cream or store bought container, if you have any questions please contact

Jeanice Swank at 970-242-3588 or

Jeanne Klitzke at 970-243-5668!

We look forward to seeing you all there and tasting your frozen treats,  
whether home-made or bought!

## **Church Cabin Worship Services: August 4, 2019**

There will be a worship service at the church building at 10:50am on August 4th for those unable to attend the service at the cabin.

### **Where will you worshipping on Aug. 4th?**

Please let us know where you plan to worship on this day so we can be prepared for both services.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Worshipping at: (Please Circle One)

**First Christian Church**

**Church Cabin**



(Please return this slip to the church office by July 28th)



# Pray for Safe Travels



## Please Pray for Safe Travels!

During the summers, many of our members and active participants take a break from Grand Junction to visit relatives or go on vacation. **Each Sunday, we'll provide** a list of who is traveling this day and in the near future, so you can pray for their safe return to Grand Junction and FCCGJ.

### Those Traveling :

- |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Richal yn Cox                 | Nebraska             |
| Carol & Jim Matthews          | Rochester, Minnesota |
| Joyce Wittwer & Lamar Edwards | Alaska               |
| Les & Nancy Armbruster        | Glenwood Springs     |
| Al & Pam Baumgartle           | Wichita Falls, Texas |

David Hawley, Greg and Beth Sherry will all be traveling to El Salvador On July 21-Aug. 3 on our mission trip.

### Traveling in the Near Future:

- |                    |            |            |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Marlene Cowan      | Aug.       | California |
| Brad & Josh Barton | Aug. 12&13 | Denver     |

# FCC Prayer Concerns

*“Pray without ceasing.”*

I Thessalonians 5:17

Clara Arroyo	Peggy Lawler
Jim Bennett	Betty Learned
Bill Brown	Ken & Judy Maurer
Amy Burns	Kathy Moore
Gale Carper	Faye Morosini
Howard Coltfelter	Ginger Morris
Daniel Connor	Brian Neukman
Chuck Cummings	Dennis Parks
Carol Jean Daniel	Carol Perry
David & Family	Steve Pratt
Annabelle Decker	Ike Rogers
Maia Dibble	Kyle Rosencrans
Barbara Dunning	Paul Scanga
Earn Eachus	John Sherry
JoAnne Eggers	Brian Stouffer
Larry Eggers	Lois Stouffer
Family of Alice Else	Angie Tanksley
Linda & Karen	Terry
Sheana Emerson	Tierney
Rutha Hart	Ron Velarde
David & Vickie Hagan	Joan White
JoAnne Hill	
Ethel Hoffman	
Eleanor Hubbell	
Gloria Jeffery	
Dee Johnson	
Ed Jones	
Nora Juette	
Hailer Kellog	





# FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

July 21, 2019

No First Service

**July 21, 2019**

**3rd Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

Lois Dunning

**Elders**

Jeanice Swank  
Riecke Claussen

**Greeter**

Jeanne Klitzke  
Adele Matera  
Cole Barton

**Preparing Diaconate**

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

**Serving Diaconate**

David Morgan

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Nancy Claussen

**Van Driver**

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

**Coffee Mingle**

Melanie Ferron

**Keyboard**

Paula Schaffer

**Collection Team**

Al Baumgartle

Ray Farrell

July 28, 2019

No First Service

**July 28, 2019**

**4th Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

Riecke Claussen

**Elders**

Ray Farrell  
Lois Dunning

**Greeter**

Melanie Ferron  
Ruth Acord  
Karen Lehman

**Preparing Diaconate**

Marian Velarde

**Serving Diaconate**

Marian Velarde

Dennis Edwards

Ruth Acord

Jodi Gabel

**Van Driver**

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

**Coffee Mingle**

Beverly Dorson

**Keyboard**

Paula Schaffer

**Collection Team**

Al Baumgartle

Ray Farrell

August 4, 2019

No First Service

**August 4, 2019**

**1st Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

Ray Farrell

**Elders**

Jim Matthews  
Carol Matthews

**Greeter**

Lily Fitch  
Riecke Claussen  
Nancy Claussen

**Preparing Diaconate**

Karen Lehman

**Serving Diaconate**

Kathy Moore

Jerry Francis

Jeanice Swank

Yvonne Warner

**Van Driver**

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

**Coffee Mingle**

Birthday Cake-

Nancy Claussen

Riecke Claussen

**Keyboard**

Paula Schaffer

**Collection Team**

Chip Ferron

Riecke Claussen

August 11, 2019

No First Service

**August 11, 2019**

**2nd Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

Lily Fitch

**Elders**

Chuck Haigler  
Ray Farrell

**Greeter**

Jeanice Swank  
Doug Bryant  
Carolyn Bryant

**Preparing Diaconate**

Alice Wieseler

**Serving Diaconate**

Bob Wise

Al Ladage

Josh Barton

Cole Barton

**Van Driver**

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

**Coffee Mingle**

TBD

**Keyboard**

Paula Schaffer

**Collection Team**

Chip Ferron

Riecke Claussen

# Church Calendar of Events - July 18, 2019— August 14, 2019

## Thursday July 18, 2019

\*\*\*\*Crosswords \*\*\*\*

NO Monthly Mission Day for July

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday July 19, 2019

Son Mountain

2:00 pm Camp Good Grief

## Saturday July 20, 2019

Son Mountain

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am RMCS CPE Group

NO Territorial Daughters Group for July

## Sunday July 21, 2019

Son Mountain

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

2:00 pm Dorothy Mitchell's 95th Birthday Party

NO Cabinet Meeting for July

## Monday July 22, 2019

10:30 am Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday July 23, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday July 24, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study  
@ the Armbruster's house  
(615 Pioneer Rd).

## Thursday July 25, 2019

\*\*\*Crosswords Deadline\*\*\*

1:00 pm CWF Executive

6:00 pm Praise Team

6:00 pm Creation Care

## Friday July 26, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Sunday July 28, 2019

\*\*\*\*Food Bank Sunday\*\*\*\*

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Ice Cream Social

## Monday July 29, 2019

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday July 30, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday July 31, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study  
@ the Armbruster's house  
(615 Pioneer Rd).

## Thursday August 1, 2019

\*\*\*\*Crosswords \*\*\*\*

9:30 am Ruth Group

1:30 pm Dorcus Group

6:00 pm Co. West Quilters Board

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday August 2, 2019

5:30 pm IACE Dinner

## Sunday August 4, 2019

10:50 am One Worship Service

10:50 am Worship at the Cabin

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

## Monday August 5, 2019

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday August 6, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:30 pm Night'ngals

## Wednesday August 7, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

3:30 pm Parkinson Support Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

@ the Armbruster's house  
(615 Pioneer Rd).

## Thursday August 8, 2019

\*\*\*\*Crosswords Deadline\*\*\*\*

8:30 am Babysitting Class CPR/First Aid

1:30 pm CWF General

5:00 pm Homeward Bound Ministries

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday August 9, 2019

8:30 am Babysitting Class CPR/First Aid

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Saturday August 10, 2019

7:30 am Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club (WCARC) Hamfest

1:00 pm Keith & Joan White's 60th Wedding Anniversary

## Sunday August 11, 2019

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Elders Meeting

## Monday August 12, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

10:30 am Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday August 13, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

NO PEO Chapter Meeting for Aug.

5:00 pm Healthy Living

5:00 pm Franklin Park HOA Meeting

## Wednesday August 14, 2019

9:30 am Newcomers Group

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study  
@ the Armbruster's house  
(615 Pioneer Rd).

7:00 pm Co. West Quilters Guild